

Talk of the town

David Delcore

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Piano man

BERLIN — The Capital City Grange has a recently tuned piano, and David Feurzeig is looking to play one in every Vermont community as part of a four-year tour the climate-conscious University of Vermont music professor launched back in May.

If that sounds like an invitation to a free concert, it is, because Feurzeig, who is now nine towns into his “Play Every Town” tour, plans to make it 10 in Berlin on Sunday afternoon.

The free 4 p.m. concert at the Capital City Grange Hall (more on that in a moment) and will mark Feurzeig’s first foray into central Vermont.

It won’t be the last.

While most of the region remains unscheduled, and area concerts likely will span years, Feurzeig will be in Calais on Sept. 10, and is planning to play in Northfield on Oct. 28.

Berlin is up first, and Sunday’s concert immediately will be followed by a community potluck supper, courtesy of the Capital City Grange.

Don’t let the “Capital City” name fool you, the Grange Hall is located just beyond Montpelier’s border on Route 12 in Berlin.

That’s where Feurzeig, a globe-trotting pianist who decided to make an environmental statement by playing closer to home, will park his solar-powered electric vehicle on Sunday and settle down on the bench of the Grange Hall’s piano.

We're told the customized concert will have a Berlin spin.

There will be a nod to Hungarian composer Bela Bartok, a sometime summer Berlin resident who once stayed just up the road from where local pianist Sylvia Parker built her home several decades later. Parker, like Feurzeig, was a music professor at UVM — and while she retired from teaching two years ago, she still plays piano and will join him in some four-hand arrangements on Sunday. The pair will play selections from Bartok's "Mikrokosmos," and a Hungarian dance of Johannes Brahms. They also will play Feurzeig's own composition: "Bela's Blues."

Like every performance on the recently launched 251 town tour that will have 241 towns to go come Monday, the concert will include its own unique Scarlatti keyboard sonata (there are more than 600 of them), but the one Feurzeig will play in Berlin will fittingly be No. 10.

All are welcome to attend the concert, and you're encouraged to bring a dish for the potluck that will follow at 5:30 p.m.